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MELTON MOWBRAY

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING

31st DECEMBER, 1953.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

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MELTON MOWBRAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

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Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, we deal briefly in this Report with matters within our responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine:-

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	5,658
Registrar General's Estimated Mid-Year Home Population	14,260
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,755
Rateable Value	£86,356
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£330

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Males.	Females.	Totals.
Live Births:	Legitimate ...	122	116	238
	Illegitimate ..	2	4	6
		124	120	244
Still Births:	Legitimate ...	1	2	3
	Illegitimate ..	-	-	-
		1	2	3

	1952	1953
Birth Rate per 1000 Population	18.2	16.8
Birth Rate for England and Wales	15.3	15.5

	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Number of Deaths:	110	99	209

	1952	1953
Death Rate per 1000 Population	9.07	14.4
Death Rate for England and Wales ...	11.3	11.4

Vital Statistics (continued):

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age:	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Legitimate	5	-	5
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	6	-	6

	1952	1953
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births	34.4	24.6
Infant Mortality Rate for England & Wales	27.6	26.8

The statistics in general can be regarded as satisfactory, especially the Infant Mortality Rate. The increase in the Death Rate is largely accounted for by deaths of aged persons who were suffering from chronic diseases.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males	Females.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	5	2
Malignant Neoplasm of Lung	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm of All Other Sites ...	7	10
Leukaemia	-	1
Diabetes	1	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	12	18
Coronary Disease	24	13
Heart Diseases	14	15
Other Circulatory Diseases	15	10
Influenza	1	1
Pneumonia	4	4
Bronchitis	2	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	1	2
Nephritis or Nephrosis	1	1
Congenital Malformations	1	-
Other Defined or Ill-defined Diseases ...	15	13
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
All Other Accidents	3	2
Suicide	1	-
	110	99

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

John Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.(Camb).

Medical Officer of Health for the Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Districts in which this District is included.

H. Buxton, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Meat & Food Inspector.

S.J. Mayo, A.R.San.I, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following examinations were carried out during the year at the Public Health Laboratory, Leicester:-

Faeces	41.
Urine	14.
Blood	2.
Sputum	4.
Throat Swab	5.
Nose Swab	1.
Pus Swab	2.
Ice Cream	6.
Biological Milk ..	1.
Other Specimen ..	4.

The good co-operation with the Public Health Laboratory Service has again continued during the year and the assistance given has been of great value.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

(1) Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1953.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	14	10	-
Pneumonia	19	3	8
Whooping Cough	43	1	-
Measles	132	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	1	1	-
Dysentery	12	-	-
Erysipelas	4	3	-
Puerperal Fever	1	1	-
	227	20	9

Age Groups.

Disease	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5/9	10/14	15/24	25/34	35/44	45/64	65 and Over	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	1	2	9	-	1	-	-	-	-	14
Pneumonia	1	2	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	4	5	2	19
Whooping Cough	4	5	3	6	4	19	2	-	-	-	-	-	43
Measles	5	14	24	9	24	55	1	-	-	-	-	-	132
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	2	-	1	1	5	2	1	-	-	-	-	12
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	4
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Totals	10	23	29	17	31	89	6	4	3	5	7	3	227

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1953 (cont'd).

There was no outbreak of a serious infectious disease during the year. The cases of Dysentery were of a mild type and connected with an outbreak which occurred in the adjoining rural area.

Diphtheria: Once again it is pleasing to report the absence of Diphtheria and it is now over seven years since a case was notified.

(2) Tuberculosis.

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	3	1	3	1	-	-	-

There was one death from this disease during the year.

Number of Cases on Register at 31st December, 1953:

	Males	Females
Pulmonary	36	34
Non-Pulmonary	11	18
Totals	47	52

(3) Diphtheria Immunisation.

Details supplied by the Local Health Authority show that during the year 1953, 151 children under five years of age were immunised against diphtheria and 135 children aged four to fifteen years were given a "booster dose".

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(1) WATER SUPPLY.

Number of Samples taken for Analysis:

(a) from piped supply	17
(b) from wells	2

Thirteen samples of water for bacteriological examination and four samples for chemical analysis from the piped supply were all satisfactory. The reports obtained show that the water supply was satisfactory as regards quality, and no serious shortage was experienced, but some restriction of supplies was necessary during the summer months.

(2) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Number of Cesspools in District at end of 1953: 6

No new cesspools were constructed during the year.

(3) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Total Number in District at end of 1953:

(a) Pail Closets	9
(b) Water Closets	4344

(4) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

House refuse is collected by direct labour for disposal at the Destructor Works and at the Controlled Tip, and as far as possible, a weekly collection was maintained throughout the area.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The particulars given under this heading are for all purposes, including particulars given elsewhere in this Report:-

Total Number of Complaints received	160
Total Number of Premises at which Defects or Nuisances were dealt with	247

INSPECTIONS.

Nature of Inspections.	Number of Inspections.
Dwellinghouses (all purposes)	1059
Animal Keeping	21
Bakehouses	27
Common Lodging Houses	4
Dairies	21
Drainage Works	55
Food Premises	361
Refuse Collection and Disposal	6
Rodent Control	416
Schools	3
Shops	71
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	527
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	25
Verminous Premises	7
Water Supplies	18
Factories	43
Other Inspections	90
Total	2754

NOTICES.

	Housing	Other
(i) Preliminary:		
Outstanding on 1st January	20	8
Issued during the Year	27	44
Complied with during the Year	35	38
Statutory Action necessary	-	-
Outstanding at 31st December	12	14
(ii) Statutory:	Nil	Nil

SHOPS.

Action taken under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950:

Eight defects were found relating to sanitary conveniences and washing facilities, and one relating to temperature, and eight were remedied during the year.

REGULATED BUILDINGS.

Common Lodging Houses:

There is one registered Common Lodging House in the District, but in view of the general unsatisfactory condition of the building and lack of facilities, the registration was renewed only until February, 1954.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

(a) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Owners Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	26	12	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities.	77	25	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities.	6	6	-	-
	109	43	-	-

(b) Cases in which Defects were Found:

	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness ...	3	3	-
Sanitary Conveniences:			
(1) Insufficient ...	1	1	-
(2) Unsuitable or Defective	3	3	2
(3) Not separate for Sexes	-	-	-
	7	7	2

(c) Outwork:

There were no instances during the year of outwork in unwholesome premises.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

(a) Publicly Owned:

One Children's Open Air Swimming Pool, owned by the Town Estate, where the water is treated by chlorination with controlled dosage.

(b) Privately Owned:

One Open Air Swimming Pool, which is owned by a private firm and is not open to the general public.

RODENT CONTROL.

After pre-bait testing, two maintenance treatments were carried out during the year to destroy rats in those main sewers found to be infested, with very satisfactory results.

Minor rat infestations at the Destructor Works, Salvage Depot, Sewage Disposal Works, Cattle Market and the Controlled Refuse Tip have been dealt with, also minor rats or mice infestations which were reported or discovered at two business premises and twenty seven private premises, and surveys were carried out in conjunction with these infestations.

HOUSING.

Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year:

(a)	(i) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	309
	(ii) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	640
(b)	Number of Dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
(c)	Number of Dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	76

Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notice:

(a)	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action	62
(b)	Unfit houses demolished	1

In the case of seven houses, now unoccupied, undertakings were obtained from the Owners not to re-let them for human habitation in their present condition.

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:

Proceedings under the Housing and Public Health Acts ... .. Nil

Housing Act, 1936, Part IV - Overcrowding:

Complete details of all overcrowding in the District cannot be given. During the year, however, 146 applicants have been granted tenancies of Council Houses, and in addition nineteen Council House exchanges or transfers have been made. The total number of persons rehoused was 643.

HOUSING (Continued).

New Houses:

	By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise
Number of permanent houses completed during the year	135	28 (including 2 convertions into 5 flats)
Number of houses in course of erection at the end of the year	157	28
Total Number of Post-war Houses completed	455	123

Occupied Houses:

Total Number of Occupied Houses in District	3755
Number of Council Houses Occupied	691

Housing Applications:

Detailed Summary of Housing Applications showing Position at 31st December, 1953:

Number of Applications		579
(a) No. of Applications from Persons residing within Urban District:		
(i) In Lodgings	154	
(ii) Householders	110	
(iii) In Nissen Huts	28	292
(b) No. of Applications from Persons residing outside Urban District:		
(i) In Lodgings	158	
(ii) Householders	129	287
(iii) Working within Urban District ...	95	
(iv) Working outside Urban District ...	192	287

Dates of Submission of Applications.

	Within Urban District		Outside Urban District		Total	
	L	H	L	H	L	H
Prior to 31.12.1946	1	22	10	18	11	40
To 31.12.1947	1	4	8	12	9	16
To 31.12.1948	4	11	19	9	23	20
To 31.12.1949	2	9	20	15	23	24
To 31.12.1950	-	13	16	11	16	24
To 31.12.1951	6	9	16	18	22	27
To 31.12.1952	58	26	39	14	97	40
To 31.12.1953	82	44	30	32	112	76
Totals	154	138	158	129	312	267

Note: L - Lodgings: H - Householders.

Applicants within Urban District residing in Lodgings.

Size of Family	No. of Families
One Applicant	5
Man and Wife	52
Man and Wife (Expectant Mother)	9
Man, Wife and One Child	49
Man, Wife (Expectant Mother) and One Child	8
Applicant and Two Children	2
Man, Wife and Two Children	19
Man, Wife (Expectant Mother) and Two Children	1
Man, Wife and Three Children	4
Applicant and Four Children	1
Man, Wife and Four Children	2
Man, Wife and Five Children	2
Total	154

Applications from Householders within Urban District.

Size of Family	No. of Bedrooms in House						Total
	NH	1	2	3	4	5	
One Applicant	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Applicant and One Child	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Man and Wife	4	3	9	3	1	-	20
Man, Wife and One Child	3	4	21	8	-	-	36
Applicant and Two Children	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Man, Wife and Two Children	10	-	19	13	1	-	43
Man, Wife (Expectant Mother) & 2 Children ..	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
Applicant and Three Children	1	-	1	1	-	-	3
Man, Wife and Three Children	4	-	3	4	-	-	11
Man, Wife (Expectant Mother) & 3 Children ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Man, Wife and Four Children	4	-	6	3	-	-	13
Man, Wife and Five Children	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Man, Wife and Six Children	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Totals	28	8	62	35	4	1	138

Note: NH - Nissen Hut.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

(a) Dairies (other than Dairy Farms) and Distributors:

	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Contraventions		
			Found	Remedied	Outstanding on 31st December.
Dairies	5	17	3	3	Nil
Distributors only	2	4	1	1	Nil

(b) Biological Milk Samples:

One sample of Milk taken for biological test from the herd at one dairy farm proved satisfactory. This is the only case where Non- designated milk produced in the District is not heat treated before retail sale. Only a comparatively small quantity of the milk sold in this District is raw milk which has not either been heat treated or designated "Tuberculin Tested".

Milk Supply (Continued):

(c) Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised & Sterilised) Milk) Regulations, 1949:

Licences Issued:

Dealers' Licences:	Pasteurised Milk ...	1
	Sterilised Milk ...	1
Supplementary Licences:..		Nil

(d) Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:

Licences Issued:

Dealers' Licences:	1
Supplementary Licences:..	1

Ice Cream.

Number of Premises Registered:

(a) Manufacture and Retail	1
(b) Manufacture only	1
(c) Retail Only	41

Number of Inspections of Premises 30

Number of Samples Taken: 6. Results:

Grade I	6
Grade II	Nil
Grade III	Nil
Grade IV	Nil

At thirty seven of the forty one retail premises, only pre-packed Ice Cream is sold.

Meat and Other Foods.

Number of Regional Slaughterhouses in Area	1
Number of Animals Slaughtered and Inspected	11,292
Number of Inspections of Meat at time of Slaughter ...	522
Number of Knackers Yards in Area	1
Number of Visits to Knackers Yards	4

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number Killed and Inspected	1641	543	587	6300	2221	11292
All Diseases except Tuberculosis						Wt. in lb
Whole Carcases condemned	9	12	31	76	31	20931
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	619	168	5	90	64	14565
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	38.2%	33.1%	6.1%	2.6%	4.3%	35496
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	12	10	-	-	8	14616
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	200	146	-	-	76	13232
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	12.9%	28.7%	-	-	3.8%	27848

Total Weight in lb -63344

Carcases Inspected and Condemned (Continued):

27 tons, 16 cwts., 72 lb. of Meat was condemned during the year, compared with 29 tons, 17 cwts., 3 lb. last year.

Inspection of Food Premises:

	No. of Inspections.
Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc.	31
Places where Food (other than Meat) is kept or prepared for sale	330

The following Foods were condemned and voluntarily surrendered during the year:

77 lb. of Fish; 135 lb. of Imported Rabbits; 96 lb. of Sausages and Sausage Meat; 40 lb. of Cooked Meats; 10½ lb. of Sweets; and 2736 tins, jars and bottles of various Foods.

In addition, the following Foods were condemned and voluntarily surrendered as a result of damage by flood water:

141 lb. of Dried Fruit; 70 lb. of Flour; 14 lb. of Tea; 84 packets of various Cereals; and 125 bottles and jars of various Foods.

Food Poisoning:

No cases of Food Poisoning have been notified during the year 1953.

We have the honour to be,

Your obedient servants,

J. YOUNG

Medical Officer of Health.

H. BUXTON

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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